/181 cont./

or stone. The latter is never used by the men. On the Kulisehu we collected a few ornamental stones made out of grayish white quartzite with a dull shine, which were ground into the shape of a pointed spindle and were six centimeters long. We saw the nose-spindle, natáko, in actual use only in the case of a pregnant woman, who also had many ornaments hanging around her neck. These stones came from the Batovy or the Ponekuro, the right source-river of the Kulisehu; they were said to be rare, so that ordinary bones or reed had to help out. We also obtained bones of similar shape, eight and a half centimeters long, and a spindle seven centimeters long and gleaming like mother-of-pearl, which was cut out of a shell. The operation is performed in approximately the fifth year of life and is said to be accompanied by profuse bleeding on occasion.

I may add on here the binding of the extremeties, although

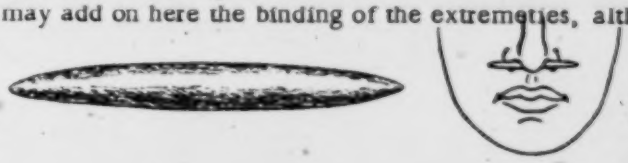

Fig. 13. Ornamental nose-stone of the Bakaïrí women.

I may add on here the binding of the extremeties, although it was still foreign to our Indians in the degree where it might be spoken of as a bodily injury. It was much in use among all the tribes. For this they used thick, wide straw binding, hanks of cotton, cotton ropes, or bands crocheted with wooden needles, and wore them on the upper arm and below the knee or above the ankle. The custom was most striking in the third Bakaïrí village, where one saw chubby, almost swollen calves. We never observed, however, such thick, protruding calves as are shown in illustrations of the male or female Karaiben of the north. We noticed the straw bindings especially among the Nahuquá (cf. Fig. 4 /see p. 71/). /182/ Only the men made use of the binding. It makes one strong, I was told by way of explanation. As dance ornaments bands decorated with colored feathers are worn around the upper arm.

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000 proper, we started first with the primitive peoples, we should not fail to recognize that there is Paleolithic as well as Neolithic work among them even today, depending on the kind of stone available, the material provided from another quarter, and the technical purposes present. We should see that the negative term "metal-less" is, of course, appropriate, but that the positive name "Stone Age" can be very unfortunate. We should also consider the case where man has no stones at all or unsuitable ones and still makes excellent tools and weapons. „As an unprejudiced observer, it would scarcely have occurred to me to maintain that the Schingú Indians are living in the "Stone Age."

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*171 It is certainly true that their most difficult accomplishments --
412 clearing the forest, building houses, building
439 canoes, making stools, and the like -- go back
I to the stone ax. But the various tribes were en-
171 tirely dependent on one source, which was in the
412 possession of the Trumaí. Neither the Bakaïrí
439 nor the Nahúquá nor the Mehinakú /Mehinacu/ and their relatives, nor the Auetó nor Kamayurá /Camayura/ had stone axes of their own manufacture. Their sandstone was not suitable for axes. I have asserted exactly the same thing about the former times of the docile Bakaïrí of the Paranatinga: in this region the Kayabi /Cayabi/ had a monopoly on the stone axes; the neighboring Bakaïrí were obliged to get them from them, later their deadly enemies. The tribes of the Batovy, Kulisehu, and Kuluëne obtained their stone axes from the Trumaí (the Suyá living on the main river had some of their own). Thus, the stone ax is presented to us here as an import article.

Fig. 20.
Stone ax.
(1/8 nat. size /as shown in the original illustration/.

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412 In answer to my inquiries, I was told that the stones were found
317 "along a brook in the sand." The material has been identified by Herr Professor Arzruni /204/ of Aachen as diabase, a rock consisting of augite, plagioclase, mica, chlorite, and magnetite, in which are

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embedded individual crystals of olivine and quite a number of quartz granules. The blades, 11-21 centimeters long, are usually evenly cylindrical, but some are round in the center like a roller, taper toward the rear, and have a broad front end with a bow-shaped cutting edge. Without any lashing, they fit into a wooden handle 0.5 meters long on the average, which consists of a cylindrical upper piece bored crosswise and a thinner handle set off from this like a reed stalk from its spike. The stone points inserted in the darts and the ornamental stones of the neck chains are made of the same diabase. The Trumaí ground the blades to a point on their stones and bored the ornamental stones; besides them, only the neighboring Yaulapiti did this. The other tribes simply sharpened on the river sandstone the axes that became dull. Shells and stones were bored with a twirl-borer. A triangular, hard splinter of stone was clamped to a small staff, and, to be sure, at both ends so that one could alternate them, and was secured by cord lashing. The little staff was almost half a meter long and was twirled between the hands. If stone was to be bored, sand was added. This is all the Indians achieved in the working of stone; they had

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Fig. 21.
Twirl-borer.*
(1/2 nat. size/ as shown in the original illustration/.)

*The twirl-staff is represented discontinuously.